(Sri K. PATTABHIRAMAN.)

request the Government that while interpreting the words "considering objections", it may be given a more composite content, in the sense that if the objections are from the residents of the localities, such objections should always prevail. In the rule making power and the general powers to be exercised under 4 (*b*), the Government may make it very clear. Let us forget for a moment that we are legislating only for the amalgamation of the Chamarajanagar and Ramasamudram municipalities. We are passing a legislation. It may incidentally help these two municipalities. But that should not be the objective. This is going to be a law which might be used throughout the State hereafter. Take that general content into consideration. I would request the Government to see that the words "considering objections" are interpreted in a material form. Otherwise ten or fifteen members may make it a point to get a resolution passed that two bodies may be amalgamated. Therefore, in such cases, the opinion of the residents must always prevail. That should be made very clear. "Considering objections" must not be a formality. It should be something definite. The opinion of the residents should always prevail and amalgamation should not be formed without their consent. Let us forget for a moment Chamarajanagar and Ramasamudram.

Sri T. CHANNIAH.—If there are any objections, they will certainly be considered.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The question is :

"That the Mysore Town Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1953, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE MYSORE LOCAL AUTHORITIES' LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1953.

Motion to consider.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA (Minister for Revenue and Public Works).—Sir, I move :

"That the Mysore Local Authorities' Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1953, be taken into consideration."

Sir, it is a very simple measure. It prescribes uniformly that the electoral rolls prepared for the Assembly Elections may be adopted for the purpose of elections for the local bodies. Sir, several local bodies in the State are having their own electoral rolls and they have to be prepared every time and revised every time. To obviate the difficulty and to avoid unnecessary expenditure in connection with the preparation of electoral rolls and the revision thereof, this Bill has been introduced. Under the Town Municipalities Act, Section 12 deals with the preparaton and revision of electoral rolls. Under the Mysore City Municipalities Act, Sections 10 and 11 provide for the preparation and maintenance of electoral rolls. Similarly, in the City of Bangalore Municipal Corporation Act, Sections 52 and 53 deal with these matters. Similarly, in the Mysore Village Panchayets and District Boards Act, Section 8 provides for the preparation of electoral rolls. In this connection, I may bring to the notice of the Hon'ble Members that the preparation of electoral rolls cost a good deal to the local bodies. For instance, in the case of District Boards in the State, they have to spend at the time of every election at least Rs. 4 lakhs for the preparation of electoral rolls.

Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM (Jagalur).—Not now. Now, the electoral rolls are prepared by the Panchayets.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—Even the panchayets have to spend on the whole in the State about Rs. 4

lakhs for preparing electoral rolls. To obviate this difficulty, the Government thought of bringing this measure and the Bill provides for adopting the electoral rolls prepared in connection with the General Elections to the Assembly, in the case of elections to the Panchayets and municipalities. I may also tell the Hon'ble Members that the electoral roll which is being revised from time to time, is up-to-date and there will be no difficulty in adopting the electoral rolls for the election of either Village Panchayets or the other local bodies. Under these circumstances, it is a very useful and healthy measure. I commend the measure for the acceptance of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Motion moved :

"That the Mysore Local Authorities' Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1953, be taken into consideration."

*Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM.—Sir, I am not opposing this Bill. But I only regret the lethargy and lack of foresight on the part of the Government. I know these preparations are necessary in order to hold elections to Village Panchayets and District Boards. The elections to the District Boards and the Panchayets are long overdue. I think during the last Budget Session, the Minister promised that the elections to the District Boards would take place somewhere in the month of August. August is only 15 days ahead, but still, we do not see any sign of elections. In fact, the preparation for holding elections to the Panchayets and District Boards is on the anvil for the last three years. This shows, I think, the incompetence and inability on the part of the Government to hold the elections in time. All these things ought to have been anticipated in time......

Sri K. PATTABHIRAMAN (Kolar).—Unwillingness also!

Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM.—I do not say that. All these measures ought to have been taken in time. They bring legislation piece by piece. Once they thought of introducing adult franchise both for District Boards and Village Panchayets; next time they receded from that position and they thought of introducing indirect election to District Boards and direct election through adult franchise to the Village Panchayets. I do not know what further changes are necessary. Anyhow, I am very sorry that the Government are not viewing the future in all its perspective and they are not taking action in all its entirety and they are introducing piecemeal legislation which is causing a good deal of delay. In fact, the present District Boards have enjoyed the longest period of existence. They are nearly 7 years old and I congratulate the present members and Presidents of the District Boards. I am sure they will continue for another one year. So, Sir, I only expect from the Government that they must consult proper authorities and they must anticipate what are the steps to be taken or certain action to be taken. Now what we feel is this: the Government themselves are not sure of their ground, are not sure what action should be taken and it looks as if they are working in wilderness and working in darkness. Now, they are thinking of preparing electoral rolls of the Village Panchayets and I do not know when these elections to the Village Panchayets would be held. God alone knows when these elections to the Village Panchayets would come off and when the elections to the District Boards would take place. These are things which are quite uncertain and the future looks quite uncertain......

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—The future is very certain.

Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM.—From our past experience, the future is very gloomy. I must only say that the Government are not practical and the steps they are taking are not practical. Formerly every panchayet was not electing its members

(SRI J. MOHAMED IMAM.)

through adult franchise; they had their own system; why don't you continue this system ? If you want to burden them with this additional duty to the panchayets and ask every panchayet to print and publish electoral rolls, that means that it will be an extra and additional expenditure on the part of the panchayets.

Sri K. PATTABHIRAMAN.—It is avoided in this case.

Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM.—According to Government, they themselves are not certain. They want to copy that portion from the Assembly electoral rolls and again reprint it and distribute it. You cannot expect every candidates that stands for panchayet election to purchase all the Assembly electoral rolls and work through his election. The idea is the original electoral roll will be in the Assembly electoral rolls and that will have to be copied and reprinted for the benefit of the panchayets. I have no objection to have them copied but don't ask the panchayets to print them or publish them, because that would be an extra cost. The second thing is, this simple election is the concern of the Government for the last seven years and I may tell you in confidence that the Government is under redicule because they have not taken steps to push through elections of Panchayets and District Boards in time. You have given a series of assurances in this respect but you are not able to implement those assurances. With these observations, I support the Bill.

Sri M. V. RAMA RAO (Tumkur).—May I seek information on one or two points before the debate proceeds further ?

Mr. SPEAKER.—Yes.

Sri M. V. RAMA RAO.—I should like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether in respect of the District Boards Act as it is in force at present, the provisions deleted from that Act during the Budget Session of the year 1952 on a motion made by my Hon'ble Friend, Sri Bheemappa Naik, and supported wholeheartedly by the Government and the Party in office and opposed by Sri Mohamed Imam and other gentlemen belonging to his Party, have been substituted by any Act of Government; because, as far as I can remember, those provisions after they disappeared from the body of the main Act have left a lacuna there which has not been filled up. As far as I am aware, it is not clear whether the Government have made up their mind to conduct the elections to the District Boards on the basis of adult franchise. If that is a fact, I should like to have a clarification form the Hon'ble Minister. Then the second point on which I should like the Minister to give the House information is whether it is proposed to adopt the Representation of the People Act with all its implications in regard to qualifications and disqualifications contained in the Act, in respect of the elections to be held to the local bodies. If that is so, whether the Government do not consider it necessary to make an adaptation of the Representation of the People Act in a clearer form than the provisions of this Bill.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—Regarding the first point raised by Sri M. V. Rama Rao, I may state that, so far as I am aware, no provision in the Act has been deleted in the Budget Session as suggested by him and so there is nothing to substitute.

Sri K. PUTTASWAMY (Sreerangapatna).—It is better not to rely on memory.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—I am definite. Certain clauses in the Bill which were introduced in the House were sought to be deleted and not the provisions contained in the main Act itself.

2 P.M.

Then regarding the anxiety on the part of the Government to push through the elections, I may categorically state that the introduction

of this Bill is adequate proof of the anxiety of the Government to push through the elections.

As regards the third point raised by Sri M. V. Rama Rao regarding the qualification and disqualification prescribed under the People's Representation Act, no doubt the Bill now brought forward does not include the provisions contained in the People's Representation Act regarding disqualification. The Bill seeks to provide for the adoption of the electoral roll for the purpose of election, not the other provisions regarding disqualification . . . .

Sri M. V. RAMA RAO.—The answer to the second point referred to by the Hon'ble Minister in his reply was not really an answer to any point raised by me because it was not I who objected to the delay; it was my friend, Sri Mohamed Imam. Now whether Government are satisfied or dissatisfied with the delay that has occurred, and whatever reasons there may have been for the delay in the holding of elections, my point has no reference to that. My point has reference to this question, whether Government have decided to hold elections to the District Boards on the basis of adult franchise. I do not know if the Hon'ble Minister made any reply to that point.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—The Bill is clear on the point. The elections to the District Boards will be by means of indirect election. The members of the Panchayet will form the electorate and the election to the village panchayet is on the basis of adult franchise.

Sri K. PATTABHIRAMAN.—I am seeking further clarification arising out of the answer given by the Hon'ble Minister. My Hon'ble friend, Sri Rama Rao's question, if I have understood him aright, has raised a very important issue before us. The electoral roll under the Representation of the People Act will be prepared on the basis of certain qualifications and disqualifications. Those who are qualified under the Act and those who are disqualified under the Act will be taken note of. Those who are fully qualified will come in. If we say by this Bill that the electoral roll as declared by the Representation of the People Act will be the electoral roll here, indirectly, virtually we will be registering the disqualifications under the Representation of the People Act and the qualifications thereunder; is that in the contemplation of the Government? If that is so, it is indirectly asking us to register our opinion and say that disqualifications under the Representation of the People Act will apply to these elections. That will be the effect; if I have understood Sri Rama Rao aright, that is the effect of this question. Let us have a clear position.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—Section 16 of the Representation of the People Act prescribes the qualification for a voter. It reads like this:

> "(1) A person shall be disqualified for registration in an electoral roll if he—
>
> (*a*) is not a citizen of India; or
>
> (*b*) is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court;
>
> (*c*) is for the time being disqualified from voting under the provisions of any law relating to corrupt and illegal practices and other offences in connection with elections."

This is the provision in the Representation of the People Act. In the Village Panchayets and District Boards Act this is the provision. Section 9:

> "No person may vote who is of unsound mind, who is sentenced by a criminal court to imprisonment or punished with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months, who is adjudged insolvent or who has been removed from office under Section 11 . . . ."

(SRI KADIDAL MANJAPPA.)

There is no doubt some difference; but the difference is not material.

Sri K. PATTABHIRAMAN.—Do you really mean to suggest to the House that the disqualification under the Representation of the People Act will apply in respect of the panchayet elections and municipal elections? Let us have a definite answer. If that is what you mean, then you ask us to give our support to this Bill. Otherwise, let us not register our support to this Bill where you want to make some distinction. Under the Representation of the People Act, if a person is to be qualified to be entered into the electoral roll, he has to follow certain procedure, and persons who suffer from certain disabilities or disqualifications cannot get into the electoral roll. After satisfying both the positive and negative tests of qualifications, the electoral roll under the Representation of the People Act will be prepared. Virtually we will be declaring by giving our support to this Bill that the disqualifications under the Representation of the People Act will be disqualifications for being chosen either as a voter or as a member to the village panchayet or municipality. That will be made clear. If you really mean so much, let us say so in so many words. Let us be clear in our minds.

We know how these questions have come up in some form or other before the election tribunals, before courts in so many ways. We have all the experience before us. If you suggest that all the disqualifications which have been declared by virtue of the interpretations of the Representation of the People Act apply to elections to the panchayets, if you mean it, please tell us definitely. With our eyes wide open, and ears not closed, let us register our support or withdraw it, as the case may be.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ವೆಂಕಟಪ್ಪ (ಚನ್ನಪಟ್ಟಣ).—Holding office of profit ಎಂಬುದೂ ಒಂದು disqualification ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಎ. ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪಗೌಡ (ಅರಕಲಗೂಡು).—ರೆಸಿಡೆನ್ಷಿಯಲ್ ಕ್ವಾಲಿಫಿಕೇಷನ್ ಎಂಬುದು ಕೂಡ ಇದೆ. ಅಸೆಂಬ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲಿದ್ದರೂ ವೋಟರುಗಳಾಗಬಹುದೆಂದಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯಾ ಊರಿನಲ್ಲೇ ಇರಬೇಕು, ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ, ಆಯಾ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯೊಳಗೆ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಲ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶವನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಬೇರೆಕಡೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾದರೂ ಇರಬಹುದೆಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೋಲಿಕೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾ ಹೋದರೆ ಅನೇಕರು ಈ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಮತದಾರರ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು ರೆಸಿಡೆನ್ಷಿಯಲ್ ಕ್ವಾಲಿಫಿಕೇಷನ್ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಈ conflictನ್ನು ಕೂಡ ವಿಶದಪಡಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕೇಳಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೇನೆ.

*Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK (Molakalmuru).—There has been a Village Panchayets Act under which we were conducting elections hitherto. Even there the system of election on adult franchise was prevailing. Only the list was being prepared in each village as and when required. But now under the present Bill a list is brought in, which the village panchayet need not prepare. The list which is prepared for the Legislative Assembly election is to be taken. Under the Village Panchayets' Act as it stands we only conduct elections. The only disqualifications which ensure both to the voter and to the candidate ensure there. No more interpretation need be given to the present amendment. The amendment that the Government seem to propose is only that the voters must be those that are mentioned in the Legislative Assembly election roll and for a village it is those who are voters in that village whose age is 21 years or above, who are not now subject to disqualifications as contemplated in the Village Panchayets Act, but not in the Representation of the People Act; it cannot be that; because unless they bring in an amendment and say that portion of disqualification which ensures to the members in the Village Panchayet is deleted and another section is introduced where the Representation of the People Act is to be taken into consideration, it cannot be applied here. Moreover even in the Municipalities Act the disqualifications are quite different from what are contained in the

Village Panchayets' Act. Unless the Municipalities Act is amended, they cannot simply say that the Representation of the People Act applies here. Similarly in the case of District Boards. So far as the District Boards are concerned, now voters will be different because it is an indirect election. The disqualifications as contemplated under the District Boards Act are quite different. The present amendment is only so far as the voters are concerned and the deletions and necessary amendments for implementing the Representation of the People Act to the relevant clauses, I do not think, will be applicable here.

Sri K. PUTTASWAMY (Srirangapatna).—The Hon'ble Minister said at the outset that this is a simple measure. But the debate discloses that it is not a simple measure and it is a very comprehensive one. I regret very much to state that the Government has not bestowed proper attention while bringing this Bill. In one Bill they want to amend 3 or 4 Acts. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons they have said fully why they require all the amendments they have proposed here with regard to the electoral rolls; but on page 4 they propose some amendment to Section 5 of the Mysore City Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1951. I am a municipal councillor myself and I have followed the 1951 (Amendment) Act of the Mysore City Municipality. I tried my best to understand the object with which the amendments are proposed. I must confess that I was unable to understand it. This is the way in which the Bill is brought. Supposing we lend our support to this Bill and it is passed into law; what is going to happen to the electoral roll to which objections have been received? It was finalised and published some time back. I learn this year it was published in the month of March. Suppose elections are held in November or December, what is going to happen to some persons who by then would become qualified by completing 21 years of age and who would not be able to become voters? If they had said that the voters' list relating to that area should be treated as preliminary voters' list, that would have been something. If it were the idea of the Government to use the electoral rolls prepared for elections to the Assembly, for either the City Municipality or the town municipality or village panchayet, they need not take the trouble of bringing these amendments. It was rightly pointed out by my friend Sri Bheemappa Naik that the qualifications and disqualifications that are to be found in the several Acts—the Act relating to the District Boards, the Act relating to the Village Panchayets, the Town Municipalities Act and the City Municipalities Act—are quite different. In all these Acts, the residential qualification is the most important qualification. Supposing this amending Bill is passed into law; then this would over-ride the several provisions which have been passed by this very House relating to the qualification and disqualification of the voters for elections to the various local bodies.

I must tell the Government that this is not the way of bringing a Bill. They have not bestowed any attention on it at all.

ಶ್ರೀ ಟಿ. ಸಿ. ಬಸಪ್ಪ (ತರೀಕೆರೆ).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಶ್ರೀಗಳಾದ ಪಟ್ಟಾಭಿರಾಮನ್ ಮತ್ತು ಭೀಮಪ್ಪನಾಯಕರು ಈ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಬಿಲ್ಲಿನಿಂದ 'ರೆಪ್ರೆಸೆಂಟೇಷನ್ ಆಫ್ ಪೀಪಲ್ ಆಕ್ಟ್' ನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅನರ್ಹತೆ ಇದಕ್ಕೂ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸಬಹುದೆಂಬ ವಾದವನ್ನು ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಂದಿಟ್ಟರು. ಈ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಸೂದೆಯ 5ನೆಯ ಕ್ಲಾಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಕಾನೂನಿನ 8 ಮತ್ತು 9ನೆಯ ಸೆಕ್ಷನ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯನ್ನು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ. ಮೂಲಕಾನೂನಿನ 9ನೆಯ ಸೆಕ್ಷನನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟುಬಿಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಏನು ಹೇಳಿದೆಯೆಂದರೆ :

"No person may vote—

(*a*) who is of unsound mind; or (*b*) who is sentenced by a criminal court to imprisonment for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months; Provided that (1) the offence is not of a political character or is one which

(ಶ್ರೀ ಟಿ. ಸಿ. ಬಸಪ್ಪ.)

involves moral turpitude, (2) such sentence has not been subsequently reversed or quashed or; ...." ಎಂದು.

ಅದನ್ನು ಬಿಡುವುದರಿಂದ ರೆಪ್ರೆಸೆಂಟೇಷನ್ ಆಫ್ ಪೀಪಲ್ ಆಕ್ಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಏನು ಅನರ್ಹತೆ ಇದೆಯೋ ಅದೇ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಕಾನೂನಿನ 9ನೆಯ ಸೆಕ್ಷನ್ ಬಿಟ್ಟಲ್ಲಿ, ರೆಪ್ರೆಸೆಂಟೇಷನ್ ಆಫ್ ಪೀಪಲ್ ಆಕ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಶ್ರೀಮಾನ್ ಪಟ್ಟಾಭಿರಾಮನ್‌ರವರು ಹೇಳಿದ ವಾದ ಸರಿ, ಇದನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—Only about voters.

ಶ್ರೀ ಟಿ. ಸಿ. ಬಸಪ್ಪ.—ಆಗಲಿ, ಅವರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಅನರ್ಹತೆಗಳೂ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುತ್ತವೆಂಬುದನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—Yes.

ಶ್ರೀ ಟಿ. ಸಿ. ಬಸಪ್ಪ.—Residential qualification ಇತ್ತು, ಅದನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದು ಈಗ ರೆಪ್ರೆಸೆಂಟೇಷನ್ ಆಫ್ ಪೀಪಲ್ಸ್ ಆಕ್ಟಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ, ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕಡಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆಂದು ಶ್ರೀ ಪುಟ್ಟಸ್ವಾಮಿಯವರು ಹೇಳಿದರು. 8ನೆಯ ಸೆಕ್ಷನನ್ನು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಾಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಪುನಃ ರೆಪ್ರೆಸೆಂಟೇಷನ್ ಆಫ್ ಪೀಪಲ್ ಆಕ್ಟಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಓಟರುಗಳ ಅರ್ಹತೆಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಮಾಡಿದ ಹಾಗಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಚುನಾವಣೆ ನಡೆಯುವ ತಾರೀಖಿನ ಹೊತ್ತಿಗೆ ಓಟರಿಗೆ 21 ವರ್ಷವಾಗಿರಬಹುದು, ಅಥವಾ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಎರಡು ತಿಂಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಂಚೆ 21 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸಾಗಿರಬಹುದು. ಇಂಥವರನ್ನು ಪಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗೆ, ಚುನಾವಣೆ 1953ನೆಯ ಇಸವಿ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿದೆ; ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಎರಡು ತಿಂಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಂಚೆ, ಅಂದರೆ ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 21 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸಾಗುವವರನ್ನು ಓಟರುಗಳಾಗಿ ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ 1953ನೆಯ ಮಾರ್ಚಿಗೇ 21 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸಾಗಿರುವವರು ಮಾತ್ರ ಓಟುಮಾಡಲು ಅರ್ಹರಾಗುತ್ತಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಅರ್ಥವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಮಾಡಲು ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ, ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಎಷ್ಟೋ ಕಷ್ಟವಿದೆ. ಬರುವ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಯಾವಾಗ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತದೆ ಅಥವಾ ಉಪಚುನಾವಣೆ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತದೆ ಆಗ ಇದು ನಡೆಯಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಓಟರುಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯಾಗಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಮುನ್‌ಸೀಫ್ ಮ್ಯಾಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಟರಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿಕೊಡಬೇಕು. ಹೀಗೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಕಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯಾಗಲಿ, ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಟಿಯಾಗಲಿ, ಅದರ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯ ಸಂಬಂಧವಾಗಿ ಓಟರುಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಬ್ಬರು ತನ್ನ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಮ್ಯಾಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಟರ ಮುಂದೆ ಹೋಗಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಇದೆಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಯೋಚನೆಮಾಡಿ ನೋಡಬೇಕು.

Sri R. ANANTARAMAN (Chamarajpet).—As regards the amendment under the Corporation Act, similar enactments have been passed in the States of Madras and Bombay. That fact has been brought to the notice of the Government. If a new electoral list has to be prepared by the Corporation, an expenditure of two to three lakhs will have to be incurred, and also, it is a very difficult task for the Corporation. New numbers were given to the houses in the Corporation. The old list of the Corporation consisted of old numbers. Now again, these new numbers will have to be removed or they will be in conflict with the old numbers. It will be therefore very difficult for the Corporation to prefer a new electoral roll. For the election to the legislature and the municipalities and the village panchayets, a person above twenty-one years of age will be eligible to vote. If that is the case, why not we straightaway adopt the electoral roll that has been admitted for election to the legislature? No doubt, as our friends have said, there is some lacuna, because the disqualifications under the Village Panchayets Act and also under the Municipalities Act are limited. Whereas the disqualification under the Representation of People's Act, is, of course to some extent, rigorous. If that is the case, it is rather a little difficult for the Government also. Leaving that apart, it will be very easy for the Corporation and the Municipalities to adopt the Legislature electoral list. Our friends said that at the time the calendar of events are published, a person might have reached 21 years and he will be eligible to vote but his name may not be in the list. At the time of publishing the calendar of events, usually the Corporation and the Municipalities give time for filling objections.

(*Interruptions*)

If this is a final list it will be rather difficult. But if it is a preliminary one, it is easy. The Corporation can call for objections and include a number of persons. A month back, the

Bangalore Corporation called for objections and many new names were included in the electoral roll. Probably next year, they will have to include some more names of persons of 21 years of age. If this Bill is rushed through, it is very difficult for the District Boards and also Municipalities to conduct elections, because the District Board elections have not been held for the last seven years. During the previous session of the Hon'ble House Hon'ble Members made a representation that the District Board elections should be held as early as possible. But it is not correct to say, as Sri Imam said, that the Government is not efficient to conduct elections. It is because that many members of the House expressed a desire that the elections should be held indirectly —during the previous session some members expressed a desire that elections must be held directly—that elections have been postponed so far. But it is not correct to say on that account that the Government is inefficient in this respect. Government has to take the opinion of the House. The Bill is now before the House. When some defects have been shown, it is better that Government refers this Bill to a Select Committee. During the course of this session itself, the defects may be remedied in a Select Committee and the Bill again brought before the House.

(*Interruptions*)

Some of our members are expressing a doubt whether elections to the District Boards would be held this year at all, in view of the fact that it is being postponed time and again. It is therefore better that Government should push through this Bill to hold elections as early as possible. I also agree with the opinion of my friend Sri K. Puttaswamy. I went through this Bill when a copy of the same was given to me. It consists of three or four amendments and one of the amendments pertains to the Bangalore Corporation. This is a very difficult thing. Why not the Government bring a separate Bill. If a separate Bill is brought, it would be easy for the Government and there would not be so much difficulty. This is an omnibus legislation. When it is difficult for lawyers like us to understand, it is very difficult for others to understand. I wish the Government pay more attention, so that, hereafter, such omnibus legislation is not brought before this august House.

I hope the Government will see that this piece of legislation is pushed through in this session itself.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಎ. ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪಗೌಡ.—ಶ್ರೀಮಾನ್ ಅನಂತ ರಾಮನ್‌ರವರು ಹೇಳಿದ ಹಾಗೆ ಓಟರುಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯ ಮುದ್ರಣದ ಖರ್ಚು ಲಕ್ಷಾಂತರ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ, ಅದನ್ನು ಉಳಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು ಎನ್ನುವುದೊಂದು ವಿಚಾರ. ಎರಡನೆಯದು, ಚುನಾವಣೆಯನ್ನು ಬೇಗ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕಾದುದೊಂದು ವಿಚಾರ ಈ ಎರಡನ್ನೂ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದರೆ, ಪುನಃ ಓಟರು ಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮುದ್ರಣ ಮಾಡಿಸಬೇಕಾದರೆ ತಡವಾಗಿ ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯೂ ಮುಂದು ಹೋಗುತ್ತದೆ, ಮುನಿಸಿಪಲ್ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯೂ ಮುಂದೆ ಬೀಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಈಗ ತಂದಿರತಕ್ಕ ಬಿಲ್ಲನ್ನೇ ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದರೆ, ಈಗ ಸಿದ್ಧವಾಗಿರುವ ಓಟರು ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು 'ಫೈನಲ್' ಎಂದು ಮಾಡದೆ ಇದನ್ನು 'ಪ್ರಿಲಿಮಿನರಿ' ಎಲೆಕ್ಟೊರಲ್ ರೋಲ್‌ಎಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿದರೆ, ಸರಿಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ವೆಂಕಟಪ್ಪ.—ಹಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಬಿಲ್ ಏಕೆ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಿ. ಎ. ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪಗೌಡ.—ಈಗ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟೊರಲ್ ರೋಲ್ಸ್ ಮುದ್ರಣ ಮಾಡುವುದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಈಗಿರುವ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನೇ ಪ್ರಕಟ ಮಾಡಿಸಿ, ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶಕೊಟ್ಟು ಆ ಮೇಲೆ ಸೇರಿಸಬೇಕಾದವರನ್ನು ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿಸಬಹುದು, ಅನರ್ಹತೆಯಿರುವವರನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದು ಹಾಕಬಹುದು. ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳು ಹದಿನೈದು ದಿನ ಅಥವಾ ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳು ಮುಂದೆ ಹೋಗಬಹುದು, ಅಷ್ಟೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಮುದ್ರಣದ ಖರ್ಚನ್ನು ಕಡಿಮೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ. ಆರ್. ರಾಮಯ್ಯ (ಬಸವನಗುಡಿ).—ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಂದು ಕೊರತೆಯಿದೆ. ಚುನಾಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಯಸ್ಕರ ಮತದಾನ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಎನ್ನುವುದು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯಿಂದ ಹಿಡಿದು ಪಾರ್ಲಿಮೆಂಟಿನವರೆಗೂ ಒಂದೇರೀತಿ ಇರಬೇಕೆಂಬುದನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿರುವಾಗ, ಎಲ್ಲಕ್ಕೂ ಒಂದೇ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟೊರಲ್ ರೋಲ್‌ಮಾಡಿ, ಪಾರ್ಲಿಮೆಂಟ್‌ಗೆ ತಯಾರಾಗುವ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನೇ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೂ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಉದ್ದೇಶವನ್ನಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ಈ ಮಸೂದೆಯನ್ನು ತಂದಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಒಂದೊಂದು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗೂ ಚುನಾವಣೆದಾರರ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ಬೇರೆ ಬೇರೆ ಇರುವುದು ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಸಮ್ಮತವಾದುದು ಮತ್ತು ನ್ಯಾಯ

(ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ. ಆರ್. ರಾಮಯ್ಯ.)

ವಾದುದು. ಹೀಗೆಮಾಡಲು ಖರ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತದೆ, ಕಾಲ ಹಿಡಿಯುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಬೇರೆ ಸಂಕುಚಿತ ಅಥವಾ ಸುಲಭ ಮಾರ್ಗವನ್ನು ಹಿಡಿಯಲು ತೊಡಗಿದರೆ ಆದರಿಂದ ಬೇರೆ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಂದರೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ವಿಷಯ ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಅನೇಕ ವಿಷಯ ಗಳನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಈ ಮಸೂದೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ವಿಶೇಷವೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ ಆಕ್ಟಿನಿಂದ ಹಿಡಿದು ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಆಕ್ಟಿನವರೆಗೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕಾನೂನಿನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಆಯಾ ಕಾನೂನಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಭಾಗ ಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಮಸೂದೆಯೊಂದರ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇಂಥ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಸರಿಸ ಬೇಕಾದ ಸರಿಯಾದ ಮಾರ್ಗವೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಆಯಾ ಕಾನೂನನ್ನು ಬೇರೆಯಾಗಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ತಿದ್ದು ಪಾಟು ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಅದು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಯಾವುದೋ ಒಂದು ಮಸೂದೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ಸೇರಿಸಿ ಈ ರೀತಿ ಒಂದು Omnibus legislation ರೀತಿ ಮಾಡುವುದನ್ನು ನಾನು ಎಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಇದುವರೆಗೆ ಕೇಳಿಲ್ಲ. ಬಹುಶಃ ಇದು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ನೂತನ ಪ್ರಯೋಗವೆಂದು ಕಾಣುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗುವ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹಾನಿಯೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚೆಂದು ಕಾಣುತ್ತದೆ. ಒಂದೊಂದು ಕಾನೂನನ್ನೂ ವಿಮರ್ಶೆಮಾಡಿ ಎಲ್ಲಿ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಸೇರಿಸಬೇಕೋ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿಸಿದರೆ ಸಮನ್ವಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

2-30 P.M.

ಹೀಗೆ ಈ ಒಂದು ಆಕ್ಟನ್ನು ವಿಮರ್ಶೆ ಮಾಡಿಬಿಟ್ಟರೆ, ಈ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಆಕ್ಟುಗಳಿಗೂ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುತ್ತ ದೆಂದು ಹೇಳುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ Representation of the Peoples Act ಏನೆಂಬ ವಿಚಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕವರಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ಗೊತ್ತಿರ ಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ ಬಾಕಿ ಕಡೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕವರಿಗೆಲ್ಲಾ ಇದರ ವಿಚಾರವೇನು ಗೊತ್ತಿದೆ? ಮುನಿಸಿಪಲ್ ಎಲೆಕ್ಷನ್ ರೋಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿರುವುದೇ ಒಂದು ತರಹ. ಈ ರೆಪ್ರೆಸೆಂಟೇಷನ್ ಆಫ್ ಪೀಪಲ್ ಆಕ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟೊರಲ್ ರೋಲು ಗಳೇ ಒಂದು ತರಹ, ಈ ಅಸೆಂಬ್ಲಿಯ ಎಲೆಕ್ಷನ್ ರೋಲುಗಳಿರುವುದೇ ಒಂದು ತರಹ. ಆದರೆ ಈ ಮನೆ ಗಳ ನಂಬರನ್ನು ಹಾಕುವ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ನಿನವರೇ ಒಂದು ರೀತಿ ಇಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇಂಥಾ ಬೀದಿ, ಅಂಥಾ ಬೀದಿ ಎಂದು ಬೇರೆ ನಂಬರಿದೆ. ಅವರ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾ, ಈ ಅಸೆಂಬ್ಲಿಯ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ಸೆನ್ಸಸ್ ನಂಬರನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಒಂದು ರೋಲಿಗೂ, ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ರೋಲಿಗೂ ಬಹಳ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸ ವಿದೆ. ಈ ಆಕ್ಟನ್ನು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಒಂದಕ್ಕೇ ಇಟ್ಟು ಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಾದರೆ ಈ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯ ಆವಶ್ಯಕತೆಯೇ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳು ನಡೆಯ ಬಹುದು ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ಅದನ್ನು ರಿವೈಸ್ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ನಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ್ದು ಅನಾವಶ್ಯಕ. ಇದೇ ರೀತಿಯಾಗಿ ಈಗ ಮೈಸೂರಿನಲ್ಲೂ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ಎಲೆಕ್ಷನ್ ರೋಲುಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರುಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯನ್ನು ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಬೋರ್ಡುಗಳ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವಹಾಗೆ ಮಾಡುವುದಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಅದರಿಂದ ತುಂಬಾ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸಗಳಾಗುತ್ತವೆ. ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಇದನ್ನೆಲ್ಲಾ ದೀರ್ಘವಾಗಿ ಆಲೋಚನೆಮಾಡಿ ಮಾಡ ಬೇಕಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅವುಗಳಿಗೂ ಸಹ ಈ ಅಡೆಲ್ಟ್ ಫ್ರಾಂಚೈಜ್ ಜಾರಿಮಾಡಿರುತ್ತೀರಿ. ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅದರ ಸ್ವರೂಪವೇನು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ವಿಮರ್ಶೆಮಾಡಿ ನೋಡ ಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಅನೇಕ ಬಾಧಕಗಳಿರುವು ದರಿಂದ ಇದನ್ನು ಈರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲೇ ಒಪ್ಪುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗುವು ದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಆರ್. ಅನಂತರಾಮನ್ (ಚಾಮರಾಜಪೇಟೆ).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈಗ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟರಲ್ ರೋಲ್ ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಐದು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆಯೇ ತಯಾರಿಸಿ ಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅದಕ್ಕೋಸ್ಕರವಾಗಿಯೇ ಅವರೀಗ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರಿಗೆ ಬರೆದು ಇದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೇಗೆ ಮಾಡಬೇ ಕೆಂದು ಕೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈಗ ಇರುವ ಹಳೆಯದನ್ನು ಬದಲಾ ಯಿಸಿ ಹೊಸ ಲೆಕ್ಕಗಳನ್ನಿಡಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಬಹಳ ಕಷ್ಟವಾಗು ತ್ತದೆ. ಈಗೆಲ್ಲಾ ಹಳೇ ನಂಬರಿದ್ದ ಕಡೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ನಂಬ ರುಗಳನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವುಗಳಿಗೆ A. B. C. ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿ ಒಂದು ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಂಬರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆ ರೀತಿಯಾಗಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಹಾಕಿರತಕ್ಕ ನಂಬರುಗಳನ್ನು ಅಳಿಸಿ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಪುನಃ ಹೊಸ ನಂಬರುಗಳನ್ನು ಕೊಡಬೇಕಾ ದರೆ ಮತ್ತೆ 5-6 ಸಾವಿರ ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಖರ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ನನಗೆ ತೋರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಪ್ರಭಾಕರ್ (ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ—ಅನುಸೂಚಿತ ಜಾತಿಗಳು).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈಗ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ತುರ್ತಾಗಿ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ ಬೋರ್ಡುಗಳ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳು ಆದಷ್ಟು ಬೇಗ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ವಿಚಾರ ಎಷ್ಟೋ ದಿವಸಗಳಿಂದ ನಮ್ಮ ಮುಂದಿರುತ್ತೆಂಬ ಅಂಶ ತಮಗೆಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಗೊತ್ತೇ ಇದೆ. ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿ ದುಡ್ಡನ್ನು ಖರ್ಚುಮಾಡಿ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟುಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರುಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿರುತ್ತೆಂದೂ, ಅಂಥ ಖರ್ಚನ್ನೂ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಲಹರಣವಾಗುವುದನ್ನೂ ತಪ್ಪಿಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದಲೇ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಈ ಬಿಲ್ಲನ್ನು ತಂದಿ ರಬಹುದು. ಹಾಗೆ ತಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆಂದೇ ಭಾವಿಸೋಣ. ಆದರೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಗಾದರೂಮಾಡಿ ಆದಷ್ಟು ಬೇಗ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದಲೇ ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾಡಿ ದರೆ ಆ ಕೆಲಸ ಬೇಗ ಪೂರೈಸಬಹುದೆಂದು ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಕಳೆದ ಮಹಾ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳು ನಡೆದ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟುಗಳನ್ನೇ ಈಗ ಪ್ರಿಲಿಮಿನೆರಿ ಲಿಸ್ಟುಗಳನ್ನಾಗಿಟ್ಟು ಕೊಂಡು ಅವುಗಳನ್ನೇ ಮೈಸೂರು ಗೆಜೆಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿ objections ಗಳು ಏನಾದರೂ ಇದ್ದರೆ ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು call for ಮಾಡಿ, ಹಿಂದೆ ತಯಾರಿಸಿರತಕ್ಕ ಲಿಸ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರತಕ್ಕವರ ಪೈಕಿ ಯಾರಾದರೂ ಸತ್ತು ಹೋಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಅಂಥವರ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ತಿಯಾಗಿ ಕಿತ್ತು ಹಾಕಿ, ಆ ಲಿಸ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದ ಮತ್ತೆ ಯಾವು ದಾದರೂ ಹೆಸರುಗಳು ಕೈಬಿಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಅವುಗ ಳನ್ನು ಸೇರಿಸಿ, 21 ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಗೆ ಯಾರು ಯಾರು ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರತಕ್ಕವರಿದ್ದಾರೋ ಅಂಥವರುಗಳನ್ನೆಲ್ಲಾ ಆ ಲಿಸ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿಬಿಟ್ಟರೆ ಅಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಆ ಲಿಸ್ಟು ಪೂರ್ತಿಯಾ ಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಇನ್ನುಳಿಯತಕ್ಕ ತೊಡಕುಗಳೆಂದರೆ, ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾ ಯಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಬೋರ್ಡುಗಳ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಿಗೂ ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಅಸೆಂಬ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಿಗೂ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳು ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು, ಈಗಿರತಕ್ಕ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿರ ತಕ್ಕ ಜನರನ್ನು ಆ ಕಾನ್ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯೂಯೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸರಿ

ಹೋಗುವಂತೆ ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಒಂದು ತೊಂದರೆ ಇದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳು ವಗೈರೆ ಯುವುಗಳಿಗೆ ತಯಾರಾಗಿರುವ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿರತಕ್ಕ ವಿಚಾರಕ್ಕಾಗಿಯೇ ಈರೀತಿಯಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ಬಿಲ್ಲಿನರೂಪವಾಗಿ ಅದನ್ನು ತಂದು ಸರಿಪಡಿಸುವುದರ ಬದಲು, ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಆಗಲೇ ತಯಾರಿಸಿರುವ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಈಗ ಪ್ರಿಲಿಮನರಿ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನಾಗಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು, ಅದನ್ನೇ ಮೈಸೂರು ಗೆಜೆಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಬ್ಲಿಷ್‌ಮಾಡಿ ಬಹು ಬೇಗ ತಾವು ಒಂದು ಫೈನಲ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿ, ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರದೂ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಅಭ್ಯಂತರವಿರಲಾರದೆಂದು ತೋರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾಡದೆ ಇದನ್ನೇ ಒಂದು ಬಿಲ್‌ರೂಪವಾಗಿ ತಂದು ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದರೆ ಆಗ ಅನೇಕ ಆಕ್ಟುಗಳ ತೊಡಕಿನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಅನೇಕ ಎಡರು ತೊಡರುಗಳು ಸಂಭವಿಸುವ ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ. ಆದಕಾರಣ ಈಗಿರತಕ್ಕ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನೇ ಪ್ರಿಲಿಮನರಿ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನಾಗಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ತಾವು ಕೆಲಸಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಬಹುದು. ಇದನ್ನು ಆಕ್ಟು ರೂಪದಲ್ಲೇ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂಬುದಾಗಿ ಹೇಳಿದರೆ, ಈ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಆಕ್ಟುಗಳು ಇರಬೇಕೇ, ಬೇಡವೇ ಎಂಬ ನಾನಾ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳು ಉದ್ಭವಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ಈ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳು ಆದಷ್ಟು ಬೇಗ ಆಗಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಆಸೆ ಎಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಇದೆ. ಅದಕಾರಣ ಈ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳು ಬೇಗ ನಡೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಈಗಿರತಕ್ಕ ಮಾರ್ಗ ಒಂದೇ ಒಂದು. ಅದು ಯಾವುದೆಂದರೆ, ಈಗ ಇದನ್ನು ಬಿಲ್‌ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಿಪಡಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಅನಾವಶ್ಯಕ. ಹಾಲಿ ಇರತಕ್ಕ ಹಳೆಯ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನೇ ಪ್ರಿಲಿಮಿನರಿ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನಾಗಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ತಾವು ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸುವುದಾದರೆ ಆಗ ತಮಗೆ ಯಾವ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ತೊಡಕುಗಳಿಗೂ ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲದಂತೆ ಆಗಿ, ಒಂದೊಂದು ಕಾನ್‌ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯುಯೆನ್ಸಿಯನ್ನೂ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಕಾನ್‌ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯುಯೆನ್ಸಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿ ಅಥವಾ ಬದಲಾಯಿಸಿ ಆ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಪುನಃ ಈ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನು ಪ್ರಿಂಟ್‌ಮಾಡಿಸುವ ತೊಂದರೆ ಸಹ ಇದರಿಂದ ಬರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಒಂದುವೇಳೆ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಅಲ್ಲಲ್ಲೇ ಒಂದೆರಡು ಹಾಗೆ ಬಂದು ಖರ್ಚಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶವಾದರೆ ಅಂಥ ಖರ್ಚುಗಳನ್ನು ನಾವು ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಹಾಕಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ ಈ ಕಾನ್‌ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯುಯೆನ್ಸಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹೀಗೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಎಲೆಕ್ಷನ್ ರೂಲ್ಸಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗೆ ನಾವು ಕೈಹಾಕುವಂತೆಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಈಗ ಇರತಕ್ಕದ್ದನ್ನೇ ನಾವು ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಇದನ್ನು ಈ ಬಿಲ್ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ತರದೆ, ಇರತಕ್ಕ ಹಳೆಯ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನೇ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸುವುದು ಸೂಕ್ತವೆಂದು ನನಗೆನ್ನಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಹುಚ್ಚೇಗೌಡ (ತುರುವೇಕೆರೆ).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈ ಬಿಲ್ಲಿನಿಂದ ಅಷ್ಟೇನೂ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳಾಗುವಂತೆ ನನಗೆ ಕಾಣುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈಗ ಎಲ್ಲ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳೂ ವಯಸ್ಕರ ಮತದಾನ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಮೇರೆಗೇ ನಡೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿವೆ. ಆ ರೀತಿಯಾಗಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಈ ಅಸೆಂಬ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳೂ ಸಹ ನಡೆದಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಆ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟುಗಳನ್ನೇ ಈಗಲೂ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗುವುದಾದರೆ ಯಾವ ತೊಂದರೆಯೂ ಆಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಕ್ಯಾಲೆಂಡರ್ ಆಫ್ ಇವೆಂಟ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಹೆಸರು ಕೈಬಿಟ್ಟುಹೋಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಅಂಥವುಗಳನ್ನು ಈಗ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿ ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಿದರೆ ಸಾಕೆಂದು ಕಾಣುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಪಕ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳಿಗೂ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿಯೇ ಈಗ ಪುನಃ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ಓಟರ್ಸ್‌ಲಿಸ್ಟ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದುದು ಅನಾವಶ್ಯಕ ಈಗ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನು ತಯಾರುಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಮತ್ತೆ ಸಹಸ್ರಾರು ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳ ಖರ್ಚು ಹಿಡಿಯುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿಗೆಷ್ಟು ದುಡ್ಡಿನ ನಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ? ಆದ ಕಾರಣ ತಾವು ಈಗಿರುವ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನೇ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಿ ಬೇಗ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಏರ್ಪಾಟು ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಆದರೆ ಇದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಪುನಃ ಒಂದು ಸೆಲೆಕ್ಟ್ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡುವುದು ತೀರಾ ಅನವಶ್ಯಕವೆಂದೂ ಅಂಥಾದ್ದಕ್ಕೇನೂ ಪ್ರಮೇಯವಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದೂ ನಾನು ಹೇಳುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ. ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸ್ (ಹುಣಸೂರು).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈ ಎಲೆಕ್ಷನ್ ರೋಲುಗಳನ್ನು ಇಂಥ ಸ್ಪೆಸಿಫಿಕ್ ಫಾರಂನಲ್ಲೇ ತಯಾರಿಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಆವಶ್ಯಕತೆಯೇನೂ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈಗ ಹಾಲಿ ಇರತಕ್ಕ ಅಸೆಂಬ್ಲಿ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟೋರಲ್ ರೋಲುಗಳನ್ನೇ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಿಗೂ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಬೋರ್ಡುಗಳ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳಿಗೂ ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದ್ದಾಗ್ಯೂ ಇಂಥ ಒಂದು ಬಿಲ್ಲನ್ನು ಏತಕ್ಕೆ ತರಬೇಕಾಗಿತ್ತೆಂದು ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಯನ್ನೆತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಈಗ ಹಾಲಿ ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಂದೆ ತಂದಿರತಕ್ಕಂಥ ಈ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಸೂದೆಯನ್ನು ಅನುಮೋದಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಕೆಲವರು ಹೇಳಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಅದೇ ಅವರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಇನ್ನೂ ವಿಶದಪಡಿಸಿ ಹೇಳತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಆವಶ್ಯಕವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಮಸೂದೆಯ Statement of Objects and Reasonsನಲ್ಲಿ

> "The enactments in force governing the Constitution of the Local Bodies in the State provide for the preparation of separate electoral rolls for the election of members to the respective local bodies."

ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಬಹುಶಃ ಅವರು ಹೇಳಿರುವ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಒಂದು specific electoral rolls ಗಳು ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಇರುವಾಗ ಈ ರೀತಿಯಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯನ್ನು ತಂದು ಅದನ್ನು ಸರಿಪಡಿಸದೆ ಇದ್ದಕ್ಕಿದ್ದ ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ನಾವು ನಮ್ಮ ಅಸೆಂಬ್ಲಿಗೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರತಕ್ಕ Electoral rollsಗಳನ್ನು ಅವುಗಳೆಲ್ಲಕ್ಕೂ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸಬಹುದೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರೆ ಆಗ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದು ಅಡ್ಡಿ ಇದ್ದೇ ಇರುತ್ತದೆಂದು ಭಾವಿಸಿ ಹೀಗೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದರೂ ಮಾಡಿರಬಹುದು. ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಇನ್ನೂ ಕೆಲವು ಬೇರೆ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳಿದ್ದರೂ ಇರಬಹುದೆಂದು ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈಗ ಇರತಕ್ಕ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವರ ಹೆಸರುಗಳು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗಿರಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ, ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಅನೇಕ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವ ಹಾಗೆ, ಹಿಂದಿರತಕ್ಕ ಲಿಸ್ಟಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಕೆಲಸ ನಡೆಸುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ಅಷ್ಟೇನೂ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟರಲ್ ರೋಲುಗಳು ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲೇ ತಯಾರಾದಂಥವುಗಳೇನೂ ಅಲ್ಲ. ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಅವುಗಳೆಲ್ಲಾ ಆಗಿಂದಾಗ್ಗೆ ರಿವೈಜ್ ಕೂಡ ಆಗುತ್ತಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಆದರೆ ಕೆಲವು ಹಾಗೆ ರಿವೈಜ್ ಆಗದೆ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಇರಬಹುದು. ಕೆಲವು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಬೋರ್ಡುಗಳು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ತಯಾರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರತಕ್ಕಂಥ ಓಟರ್ಸ್‌ಲಿಸ್ಟುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವರ ಹೆಸರುಗಳು ಕೈಬಿಟ್ಟು

(ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ. ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸ್.)

ಹೋಗಿರಬಹುದು. ಅಂಥವುಗಳನ್ನು ಈಗ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಆ ಲಿಸ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಕೆಲಸ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವ ತೊಂದರೆಯೂ ಬರಲಾರದು.

ಇನ್ನು ಎರಡನೆಯದಾಗಿ ಈಗ ಇರುವ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಮುಖ್ಯ ವಿಚಾರವೇನೆಂದರೆ ದುಡ್ಡು ಖರ್ಚಾಗತಕ್ಕದ್ದೂ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಲವಿಳಂಬವಾಗುವುದೂ, ಈ ಎರಡು ಅಂಶಗಳೂ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದವುಗಳು. ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಬೋರ್ಡುಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ತಯಾರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟುಗಳು ಬಹಳ ಹಿಂದಿನ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲೇ ತಯಾರಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವಂಥವುಗಳಾಗಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ತಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳೂ ನಡೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಈಗ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಓಟರ್ಸ್ ಲಿಸ್ಟನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದರೆ ಹತ್ತಾರು ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳನ್ನು ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಕಾಲವಿಳಂಬ ಕೂಡ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಈ ವಿಷಯ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕ ಯಾವ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೇ ಆಗಲಿ ಅಷ್ಟು ರುಚಿಕರವಾಗಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಎಲ್ಲರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯವೂ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ವಿರೋಧವಾಗಿಯೇ ಇದೆ. ಈಗ ತಾವು ತಂದಿರುವ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯನ್ನೂ ನಾವು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಂಡರೂ ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹದು. ಆದರೆ, ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ. ಆರ್. ರಾಮಯ್ಯನವರು ಹೇಳಿದ ಹಾಗೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಮತ್ತು ಇನ್ನು ಕೆಲವು ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್‌ಗಳಿರತಕ್ಕ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ವಾರ್ಡ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಂ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ವಿಂಗಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈಗ ಇದಕ್ಕನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಡಿ-ಲಿಮಿಟೇಷನ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಹೊರಟಾಗ ಕೆಲ ಕೆಲವು ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿಗಳು ಇರುವ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಆ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಂ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅಂಥ ಸಂದರ್ಭಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಡ್ಜೆಸ್ಟ್ ಮಾಡಲು ತುಂಬಾ ತೊಂದರೆಯುಂಟಾಗುತ್ತದೆಂದು ಅವರು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಈ ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನೆಲ್ಲಾ ಕೂಲಂಕಷವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ, ಈ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ಪೂರೈಸುವುದರೊಳಗಾಗಿಯೇ ಇನ್ನು 3-4 ದಿವಸಗಳಲ್ಲೇ ಒಂದು ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿಸುವ ಪಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಇದನ್ನು ಸೆಲೆಕ್ಟ್ ಸಮಿತಿಯವರ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಗೆ ಹಾಕಿದರೂ ಹಾಕಬಹುದು. ಅದಕ್ಕೇನೂ ಅಡಚಣೆಯಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ನಾನು ಸಲಹೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.

Sri M. V. RAMA RAO.—Sir, I would like to make a few suggestions with respect to this Bill. The first is, that if it is not the intention of the Government to avoid the preliminary and the final publication of the electoral rolls with respect to the elections that are to be held to the Village Panchayets and the Municipal Councils in towns and cities and to the Corporation of Bangalore, then the taking of separate legislative authority for making use of electoral rolls which are already in existence would not be necessary unless it was the intention of the Government to do away with the preliminary and final publication of these electoral rolls. If Government desire that there should be no separate publication of electoral rolls as distinguished from separate preparation of electoral rolls in respect of these elections, then I think the matter really deserves a little more serious examination. We have to make a distinction between the preparation of the electoral rolls and the publication of the electoral rolls after preparation for a specific and separate purpose. Now, we all know that under the Representation of the People Act, electoral rolls are prepared with reference to the holding of elections to legislative bodies.

Although the basis of holding elections to these bodies is adult franchise and it is proposed to adopt the same basis, *viz.*, adult franchise, for holding elections to the Village Panchayets, the Municipal Councils and the Local Boards, still the defects which have been pointed out would not disappear merely by citing that the qualifications required for the voters in both the categories of elections are the same. Those qualifications may be the same and I do not mind conceding that they are more or less substantially the same. There may be a few variations, but I do not think there would be much substance in those variations; but apart from it, as I was saying, the preparation of these electoral rolls is one thing; but the publication of the electoral rolls for one or the other purpose is another thing and unless we are quite clear in our minds as to the purposes for which the electoral rolls are sought to be prepared and as to the manner and method in which they should be used, it would not be fair, I think, to refuse to make a further examination of the relevant clauses in the proposed Bill. Everybody who is familiar with the elections, as all the Members of this House I suppose are, would know that when the electoral roll is prepared, the electoral officer has a statutory duty to publish the electoral roll in the constituency to which it relates in the prescribed

manner on a specified date and at the appointed time so as to make it accessible to all persons who are interested in it. Merely because an electoral roll has been prepared and published in the prescribed manner with reference to the holding of elections to the legislative bodies, do we propose to do away with the other requirements in respect of elections to the Local Bodies and Municipal Councils just because there are electoral rolls in existence and we are desirous and in fact anxious to avoid additional expenditure for the preparation of these rolls separately ? I quite agree with the Minister who has made the motion that this Bill be taken into consideration, that the Government ought to avoid, if possible, additional expenditure on the separate preparation of these rolls. I quite agree with him that quite a substantial sum of money would have to be spent if separate rolls have to be prepared for purpose of elections to the Local Bodies, but what I want him to examine is this. While these rolls are ready and available for use, is it proposed, enacting this Bill into law, to do away with all the other legal and statutory formalities that govern the holding of these elections, whether to Village Panchayets or Local Bodies or to Municipal Councils ? I am sure that the Minister will agree with me if I say that those formalities are not matters of mere form but are really matters of substance. The preliminary publication of an electoral roll in respect of election to a body, whether it be Local Board or Municipal Council or Village Panchayet, is certainly of sufficient importance to make us to desist from thinking of doing away with such publication. The importance of that publication lies in this. Persons whose names have been improperly included in the roll or persons whose names have been improperly omitted from the roll—those persons or other persons who are interested in the elections should have reasonable and fair *opportunity* of pointing out the improper inclusions in and improper omissions from the electoral roll. Now that is the object with which a preliminary publication of the roll is made and a reasonable period of time is also prescribed for the preferring of objections or the submitting of applications for inclusion in the rolls of the names of persons whose names ought to find a place, or for the omission of the names of persons whose names ought to be removed from the rolls. If the provision for such a reasonable period of time within which objections should be preferred—if that provision is also to be deleted, then it would be really a very serious matter because persons whose names, for whatever reasons it may be, do not happen to find a place in those rolls would be denied any legitimate or reasonable opportunity of making the fact known to the authorities whose duty it is to rectify the defects pointed out. Then the final publication of the electoral roll is as important as the preliminary publication because the final publication of the electoral roll is really the closing down, if I may say so, of the electoral and administrative machinery in respect of the point of time beyond which any claim for inclusion of names would not be entertained or adjudicated upon. If all these formalities are to be observed, then by merely saying that the electoral roll which has already been prepared for the purpose of holding elections to the legislative bodies shall be deemed to be the electoral roll for the purpose of these elections, I do not see how Government could manage to avoid all the administrative work involved in the due performance of the duties prescribed by the provisions of the Local Bodies Act or the Act relating to the Municipal Councils or the Act relating to the Bangalore City Corporation. The position to my mind really seems to be that this Bill is probably not necessary. To me, it seems that this Bill really does not seek to invest any authority in the Government to-day which it

(SRI M. V. RAMA RAO.)

now does not possess; because, if it is merely intended that Government should be in a position to make use of the electoral rolls which are already in existence for the purpose of making arrangements with respect to the elections to the local bodies which have not taken place for an unreasonably long time, then nothing prevents the Government from making use of the roll in the sense of making it the basis upon which the election should be held; but if they seek to do away with the other formalities, such as the preliminary or the final publication of the electoral roll, then I am afraid Government would not be doing a wise thing because those publications are really part of the election arrangement and I do not think it would be in order for us to do away with those things because the result might be that the elections might be invalidated on those grounds. This point would be more clear if I advert in some detail to the relevant dates with reference to which electoral arrangements are made. The general elections to the legislative bodies in the State commenced some time in January 1952. The preparation of the electoral rolls for these elections had been taken on hand by the concerned authorities in the State many months earlier. As a matter of fact, the elections were expected to be held earlier than December 1951 by as much as a whole year. It was expected that those elections would be held some time in 1950. That was not possible for certain reasons. So the elections were postponed and they were finally held in January 1952. Even so, the preparation of the electoral rolls pertaining to those elections was made quite a few months before these elections were actually held. While it is no doubt true that the electoral rolls are required, under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, to be kept up-to-date from time to time, it is a matter of common knowledge that so long as the keeping of the electoral rolls up-to-date is not a matter of top priority or a matter of first importance so far as the administrative work of local officials is concerned, it cannot be assumed that they would have given their first attention to keeping the electoral rolls up-to-date because, unless there is a bye-election in the offing, I do not suppose the electoral rolls would interest anybody, least of all the officers concerned in the preparation of the rolls. Now it would be reasonable to assume that in respect of the electoral rolls which were prepared some time ago and which may or may not be kept up to date during the year beginning on the first of April and ending on the 31st of March of the previous year during the whole calendar year, the actual details of the work of keeping the electoral rolls up-to-date may be taken on hand by different officers in different constituencies at about the dates most convenient to them having regard to their other preoccupations and administrative duties. If it is expected that all the rolls should be kept up to date merely because the law so prescribes and we straightway seek to make use of the rolls for the purpose of elections to the local bodies, I should think it would entail a great hardship on persons whose names may have been omitted from those lists or persons whose electoral qualifications may be the subject matter of controversy. Therefore I suggest that while Government are quite welcome, so far as I am concerned, to make use of the existing electoral rolls as the steel-frame or the skeleton with which they should prepare the full electoral rolls for the elections to the local bodies, I think they would not be right in doing away with the other formalities such as the preliminary publication of the rolls and the final publication of the rolls and the inviting of objections and the adjudication upon them for inclusion or omission of names from the rolls. That is one point.

The other point is, if the object of the Government is not to do away with these formalities but to carry out these requirements in the manner laid down in the Act relating to the Local Bodies and Municipal Councils, then do they require statutory authority to make use of electoral rolls copies of which are available in the Government Press to form the basis on which the electoral rolls for the Local Bodies elections should be prepared ? I do not think Government would be at all handicapped for want of the statutory authority which this Bill is supposed to confer up on them. That is the second point.

The other objection that has been raised by certain other Members to this Bill is that the qualifications and disqualifications mentioned in the Representation of the People Act with reference to elections to legislative bodies would also become applicable to voters who would exercise their franchise in elections to the Local Bodies and Village Panchayets.

If I heard my friend the Hon'ble Minister aright I think he said that that was the object. Sir, while it is true that the qualifications for being included in the electoral roll are more or less the same, namely, attaining of majority and not being of unsound mind or adjudged insolvent, there are, I think, quite a few difficulties to be met with regard to disqualifications. By way of illustration, I would like to mention one such case. If a person had incurred a disqualification arising out of having an interest in any contract with the Government ......

(Interruption.)

3 P.M.

Sir, a candidate will first have to be a voter. If a person cannot be a voter, he certainly cannot be a candidate. Therefore, if a person incurs certain disqualifications by reason of things done by him in his capacity as candidate, successful or unsuccessful, under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, he may stand disqualified to have his name included in the electoral roll. Now, those disqualifications with respect to the legislature elections, may be sufficiently serious to merit such omission. But would it be reasonable to have those omnibus disqualifications contained in the Representation of the People Act so as to make them applicable in the case of elections to a body like the Village Panchayet ? That, I think, would require a little clarification by the Hon'ble Minister.

Sir, it is possible to hold elections to the Local Boards simultaneously all over the State. It may be possible for the Government to see that the elections to the Local Boards are held simultaneously all over the State because the elections are to be held on the basis of indirect elections according to the provisions contained in the District Boards Act of 1952, as has been explained both by the Minister and my friend Sri Bheemappa Naik. But would it be possible to hold these elections simultaneously to all the Village Panchayets also in the State ? That is a question which, of course, it is for the Hon'ble the Revenue Minister to answer. If it is not possible to hold those elections simultaneously, then the separate preparation of the electoral roll for the particular Village Panchayet for which the election is to be held will be inevitable. That would be the position. Therefore, if Government can so arrange that elections to all the Village Panchayets are held simultaneously in the State, then it would be possible to make use of the electoral roll to the limited extent which I have already explained in great detail.

Next, with reference to the Town Municipal Council and the Minor Municipal Councils and the premier Municipal Councils, I do not know, Sir, if it is possible for the Government to hold simultaneous elections

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to these bodies, because, the dates on which those bodies are reconstituted are different in different places as a matter of fact. It is common knowledge that Municipal Councils at different places are reconstituted on different dates, practically all through the calendar year. That being so, I do not see how Government can avoid the statutory necessity of going through all the trouble and travail of making the preliminary and final publication of the electoral roll with respect to each of these elections, although they adopt the electoral roll already in existence. Therefore, I suggest that the exact or approximate expectations of the Government with regard to the practicability of holding simultaneous elections all over the State may be stated by the Minister so that the House will be in a position to know whether the passing of this Bill would enable us to avoid delay and additional expenditure.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The House will now rise for lunch and meet again at 3-40 P.M.

The House rose for lunch at Ten minutes past Three of the Clock and met again at Forty minutes past Three of the Clock.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair.]

Mr. SPEAKER.—Shall we take up the adjournment motion?

Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM (Jagalur).—What happened to the previous Bill?

Mr. SPEAKER.—It will be taken up the next day.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

Distress conditions in Chitaldrug District which have become acute during the last one week.

*Sri J. MOHAMED IMAM (Jagalur).—Mr. Speaker, I thank you for having admitted this motion of adjournment which is of paramount importance to the area that has been affected by distress. The motion runs as follows:

> "That the business of this House do stand adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance and of recent occurrence, namely, the distress conditions prevailing in the district of Chitaldrug, which have become very acute during the last one week."

Sir, I am not given to exaggeration and whatever I say, they are facts, and I am placing these facts before the Government, not with a view to discredit the Government, but with a view to urge the Government to afford all relief and all help to the people living in those affected areas. Sir, the district of Chitaldrug is in a very unfortunate position. It has a very scanty and uncertain rainfall. The average rainfall per year is between fifteen and twenty inches and that is very scanty and uncertain. Secondly, there are very few irrigation projects and tanks, both major and minor. While other districts possess tanks by thousands, the district of Chitaldrug has only about three hundred tanks, both major and minor. Thirdly, this district has not the advantage or the benefit of any big reservoir. Nor has it the advantage of irrigation from any big river. So from the beginning it is in a disadvantageous position and that is why I call this district *Bengad* District as against Malnad. Last year, as you know, there was total failure of *mungar* rains in the entire district. In fact, in no portion of this district was *mungar* rains got, and secondly, there was absolute failure of *mungar* crops. It is only the *mungar* crops that can bring in abundance of grains and other food crops that are essential for the people, and thus the whole district was affected. It is true that there was *hingar* rain, the north-east monsoon, which helped to a certain extent. But this was a help for those